

**ABSTRACT**

Method for identifying biological species

5           The present invention provides a method for identifying species and  
subspecies in a biological sample through the selective amplification of segments of  
nucleic acid that code a target region of the cytoplasmatic beta-actin protein, which  
is present in all the organisms concerned. The method comprises DNA extraction  
from the sample; amplification of divergent segments of the cytoplasmatic beta-actin  
10   gene by PCR or an equivalent technique, using primers of regions with high  
evolutionary conservation between species and subspecies; and identification of the  
amplified segment by comparison of its size in base pairs with a pre-established  
standard of sizes and/or identification of the amplified segment by DNA sequencing  
and comparison of the resulting sequence with the specific sequence of each  
15   species or subspecies present on a computer database.